GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1902
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2001
EXPORT OF ONIONS
GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to release 50,000 tonnes onion for export with immediate effect and have decided to set up seven canalising agencies for the same;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) to what extent these export have been able to stabilise the prices of onion in the domestic market?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) & b) : The Government released a quantity of 50,000 tonnes of onion for export on 5th February 2001.The exports of the above quantity of onion was allowed through the following canalising agencies, namely, the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd., New Delhi,the Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board, Pune,the Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation Ltd, Ahmedabad, the Spices Trading Corporation Ltd., Bangalore. the Andhra Pradesh State Trading Corporation, Hyderabad, the Karnataka State Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd. Bangalore and The National Co-operative Consumers` Federation of India Ltd. New Delhi.

c) : The exports have generally helped in firming up and stabilising the prices of onion in the domestic market. However, exports alone which constitute approximately 6% of the production, do not influence the domestic price trend. Other factors such as overall production in the year, carry over stock, weather conditions, rains, etc. also play a crucial role in the domestic price situation.